

ECB-0004  
09/676,875



**PATENTS**

**DOCKET No.: ECB-0004**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**APPLICANT:** BRUCE R. COOK, ET AL.

**SERIAL No.:** 09/676,875

**FILED:** SEPTEMBER 29, 2000

**TITLED:** CATALYTIC STRIPPING FOR  
MERCAPTAN REMOVAL

**COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
AND TRADEMARKS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231**

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**EXAMINER:** W. GRIFFIN

**GROUP ART UNIT:** 1764

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**RECEIVED**  
APR 10 2002  
TC 1700

**RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

This is in response to the First Office Action dated December 3, 2001. Please enter the following amendments and remarks.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please enter this new "ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE":

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A  
A process for reducing the amount of mercaptan sulfur in a petroleum stream without significantly changing its octane value. The process comprising a three-phase system wherein the petroleum stream to be treated is passed through a fixed bed of catalyst in the presence of a stripping gas. The stripping gas can be either hydrogen

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